

banks and pruned off any dead wood, you should fertilize them well. This formula has worked well for us:

- 3/4 lb. Organic or Tankage
- 1/4 lb. 4-7-5 or 2-8-10
- 1/8 lb. Chelated Iron
- 1/8 lb. Tobacco Dust
- 1/2 lb. Hybrotite

Mix these items well and apply approximately 1/2 coffee can full to 1 year to 1 1/2 year old plants, full coffee can to 1 1/2 year to 2 1/2 year olds. Do not put fertilizer close to trunks as this will cause feeder roots to turn inward. Apply at outer edge of foliage and scratch into soil, watering good afterward. Follow up in two weeks with a good nutritional spray at not more than three tablespoons per gallon of water. Do not apply too heavily.

Four weeks from your first fertilizing date use this formula:

- 1/2 lb. 4-7-5 Or 2-8-10
- 1/2 lb. Tankage
- 1/8 lb. Chelated Iron
- 1/8 lb. Tobacco dust

Use same application principles as before and water well.

Eight to Ten weeks from your first fertilizer application use "Hibiscus Haven's Orbit Fertilizer" to help you produce bloom buds, it also will be a definite help to bud dropping plants. For information write your Executive Secretary. If you do not wish to use this new product get 2-12-12 and apply sparingly.

All during this time watch closely for bugs. Isofox-M or Malathion will take care of most of your bug problem. Spray when necessary. If you see strange insects you are not familiar with it would be best to consult your garden supply dealer or nursery owner for their advice on what to do. Also your County Agricultural Agent can surely help you. Stay away from oil base sprays as much as possible.

Please remember, Hibiscus need well drained soil and they do like to be watered quite often.

Be good to your Hibiscus and they will most certainly reward you with many lovely flowers for your time and effort.

We have a 30' x 40' greenhouse filled with lovely plants in full bloom every day now, some of them 7 feet tall, nice and bushy. It's really a joy to us to look every day on Gods beautiful creations. For to me, to be without Hibiscus would be the same as being without a good bed to lay my weary body upon at night.

So if you love someone very much, and i know you do, learn all you can about the culture of this beautiful flower, give them a plant and teach them how to care for it. You'll be glad you did.

Thank you for reading this and I hope in some small way I have been able to help you. I stand always ready to give information to those who seek it. Please join your nearest AHS Chapter and help make Hibiscus History.

By the way! Do you know what the Mama Hibiscus said to the Papa Hibiscus: We're gonna have a little Seed Pod!

Bye now.

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